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Message Text

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47
ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 NEA-14 ISO-00 DLOS-07 AEC-11 AID-20

CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 FEA-02 FPC-01

H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07

RSC-01 SAM-01 SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 DRC-01

/161 W
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R 240900Z MAY 74
FM AMEMBASSY DACCA
TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3154
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMEMBASSY RANGOON

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, IN, BG
SUBJ: PETROLEUM EXPLORATION-QUESTION RE INDIAN AND BANGLADESH WATERS

REF: A. NEW DELHI 6722 B. DACCA 2157 C. DACCA MEMO TRANSMITTING MAP BANGLADESH OFFSHORE AREAS, 8/24/73 D. DACCA 1777 E. DACCA 1918

1. APPRECIATE INFORMATION REF A CONCERNING INDIAN OFFSHORE AREA VII ALLOCATED TO CARLSBERG/NATOMAS GROUP. AS REPORTED REF B, ROTH OF CARLSBERG TOLD US THAT AREA VII ENLARGED FROM THAT DEPICTED ON INDIAN INSTITUTE OF PETROLEUM MAP OF MARCH 1973. SPECIFICALLY HE INDICATED, BY PENCIL ON OUR COPY OF MAP, THAT THE CORNERS BETWEEN BLOCKS 73 AND 74 AND BETWEEN BLOCK 75 AND OPEN SEAS HAD BEEN SMOOTHED OFF BY STRAIGHT LINES. HE ALSO DREW A LINE DUE SOUTH AND DUE NORTH OF EASTERNMOST EDGE OF BLOCK 78, WHICH ON EMBASSY DACCA'S MAP (REF C) HAD IMPINGED ON WHAT WERE APPARENTLY
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BANGLADESH WATERS. FINALLY ROTH SAID LINE DRAWN TO NORTH TURNED

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90 DEGREES AND WENT DUE WEST ACROSS BLOCK 78, CUTTING OFF FROM THAT BLOCK WATERS BETWEEN EXTENSIONS OF LAND ALONG WEST BENGAL COAST LINE. COPY OF INDIAN MAP ON WHICH ROTH MADE HIS PENCILED CHANGES BEING POUCHED EMBASSY DELHI.

2. AS STATED IN TRANSMITTAL OF OUR MAP (REF C), WE COULD NOT VOUCH FOR ACCURACY OF DEPICTION OF APPARENT OVERLAPS. THIS CONTINUES TO BE OUR POSITION. WISH TO DRAW ATTENTION HOWEVER TO REF D AND TO SPECIFICATION THEREIN OF COORDINATES OF BANGLADESH BASELINE POINT NUMBER ONE, AS PUBLISHED IN BANGLADESH GAZETTE. THE LONGITUDE GIVEN IS 89 DEGREES 06 MINUTES 45 SECONDS EAST, WHICH IS CLEARLY TO WEST, INTO INDIAN WATERS, FROM THE EASTERNMOST LONGITUDE OF INDIAN OFFSHORE AREA VII IN TURNING POINTS 15 AND 16 AT 89 DEGREES 10 MINUTES NO SECONDS EAST. AS MENTIONED REF B, THIS WOULD SEEM TO INDICATE A SOURCE OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BANGLADESH AND INDIA AS TO DIVIDING LINE BETWEEN THEIR OFFSHORE WATERS.

3. ES REPORTED REF E, BANGLADESH GOVERNMENT HAS INTENTIONALLY NOT DEFINED THAT DIVIDING LINE, PENDING CONSULTATION WITH NEIGHBORS.
LINE DELINEATING WESTERN LIMIT OF BANGLADESH CONTINENTAL SHELF IN EMBASSY DACCA MAP WAS DRAWN FROM BDG MAP, BUT IF IT EVER WAS AN OFFICIAL LINE, IT CEASES TO BE NOW WITH THE LONGITUDINAL DEFINITION OF BANGLADESH BASELINE POINT NUMBER 1.

4. EMBASSY HAS PREPARED WORKING MZ OF VARIOUS OFFSHORE JURIS-DICTIONS AND IS POUCHING COPIES TO ADDRESSEES. NEW MAP SHOWS INTER ALIA ESTIMATE OF INDIAN OFFSHORE AREA VII AS DRAWN BY ROTH. AGAIN WE CANNOT VOUCH FOR ACCURACY OF MAP AND WOULD APPRECIATE CORRECTION.
BOSTER

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 MAY 1974
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
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